

Concord Quarter Coordinator Report for Quarterly Meeting, October 27, 2019

As you may notice, I am not here in person for Meeting for Business! (I'll be here later this morning) I am driving back from Friends General Conference Central Committee where I serve PYM as one of your representatives. This work has allowed me to share even more resources with you than I would have known about before.

This fall has been busy for me. I have met once with the Delaware Valley Friends School/Concord Quarter Care Committee, and twice with the Aging Concerns Working Group. Each group has planned activities for later in the fall for which I do a lot of the logistical work. The popular Hayride and Campfire Potluck did happen on October 6, despite the threat of rain. Earlier rain stopped at Wynnorr Farm (thanks so much to the Strattons for hosting us) at 4:45pm and we ended up having a great time with 37 participants!

Upcoming events include the annual Parents Morning Off, jointly organized with Western Quarter. Due to some other events happening in early December in the Quarter, we decided to try the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 23, for this event. Parents get to drop off their children for a morning of crafts, games, outdoor play and lunch and we get to have fun with the children! Please RSVP.

You'll also hear more about the workshop planned by the Working Group on Aging Concerns. This group also meets monthly and anyone is welcome to attend. I manage a list serve for those who were trained as Aging Concerns Facilitators in 2018, and also recently had a question relevant to this group posted on the Concord Quarter Facebook page. My social work experience in finding resources for people serves me well in this job!

I am heartened by the increase in the number of families attending Quarterly Meeting. This is especially due to the energy and support of Melinda Wenner Bradley, the PYM Youth Religious Life Coordinator, and member at West Chester. We are committed now to offering children's programming at Quarterly Meeting starting at the beginning of the day, and she has either been involved directly, or indirectly each time this year. I've created an email group of families who have been involved with any Concord Quarter program over the last 2 years and plan to email them several times a year. Let me know if you want to be included!

Today we are trying something new; we are asking you to fill out an evaluation form for Quarterly Meeting. We really want to know what your thoughts are, so please fill it out and leave it with us. The results will help us as we move forward with our programs and events.

Other work has included communication around the Quarter's Tuition Assistance program, involving communication with the schools and coordination with our Treasurer. This year we helped the families of 18 children. Daily email, Facebook posting on our page, and regular announcements, plus more targeted emails to specific groups such as Peace and Social Concerns Clerks. I'll be attending Continuing Sessions on November 2 and will report back what happens there.

I am always open to new ideas, suggestions, and offers to serve the Quarter if you are led. See you soon.

Lynne Piersol